COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

FORTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

For the Year ended DECEMBER, 1953

PELAW-ON-TYNE:

PRINTED BY THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED.



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Education Committee

Chairman:

Alderman E. Johnston, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J. Tweddle.

School Health and Welfare Sub-Committee

Chairman:

Alderman Mrs. J. Huggins, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Alderman J. Cohen, J.P.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:
Mr. WILLIAM THOMPSON, M.Ed., B.Sc., J.P.

Staff

School Medical Officer:

A. S. Hebblethwaite, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer: JESSIE R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers:

MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

ELIZABETH E. CHARLTON, M.B., B.S. (Resigned October, 1953).

Sybil A. B. Ward, M.B., B.S.

GEOFFREY C. SLADE, M.B., B.S.

Senior Dental Officer:

W. J. Proud, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officers:

JOYCE FRASE, L.D.S.

PETER W. GIBSON, L.D.S.

EILEEN A. SUFFIELD, L.D.S.

Speech Therapist:

Miss I. W. HASTINGS.

Assistant Speech Therapist:

Mrs. J. H. Turner.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

GERTRUDE B. LEIGH, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

Organisers of Physical Education:

Miss P. M. Peters. Miss A. Gray. Mr. P. J. Gillespie.

School Nurses:

Miss E. Aikenhead.

(Resigned December, 1953).

Mrs. D. Wilkinson.

Mrs. A. Cheavins.

Mrs. A. Fairclough.

Mrs. M. Donkin.

Mrs. C. Charlton.

Miss S. Young.

Miss D. E. Robson.

Miss E. Frain.

Clerks:

Mrs. D. Draper (Sen. Clerk). Miss M. I. Thompson. Mrs. A. M. Reed. Miss M. Snowball. Mrs. J. Lincoln. Miss S. Oakley

Dental Attendants:

Miss J. Johnson. Miss E. Clement. Miss L. Halliday. Mrs. N. Watson.

Bathing Attendants:

Mrs. N. Vosper. Mrs. H. Simpson. Mrs. M. Rutherford.

Child Guidance Clinic

Psychiatrist:

W. HINDS, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (Part-time).

Pædiatrician:

Miss J. R. Watson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Psychiatric Social Worker:

Miss I. R. STIRLING, M.A. Post-graduate Diploma—Social Science. Diploma Mental Health.

Educational Psychologist:

IAN S. FLETT, M.A., B.ED.

Clerks:

Miss L. M. HAMMOND.

Miss A. Chambers.
(Resigned October, 1953).

Miss P. M. McConnell.

Miss M. Davison

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND.

FORTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report of the work of the School Health Service for the Year 1953 is submitted in accordance with the instructions of the Medical Branch of the Ministry of Education.

The total number of children examined by the School Medical Officers for the year was 9,843, compared with 10,202 in the preceding year, and for Dental Officers 14,357, compared with 11,422 for the previous year.

Nutrition.

Of the total number of children inspected during the year, namely, 9,843, 9,433 were classified as good or fair. This is equal to 95.83 per cent., comparing favourably with the previous year. The following table shows the complete classification, as compared with the Year 1952.

	No. of Go			B. (Fair)). or)
In- specto		%	No.	%	No.	%
Year 1952 10,20 Year 1953 9,84		48·36 49·42	5,030 4,569	49·304 46·42	283 410	2·33 4·17

Cleansing Station.

Scabies and infection of the scalp were treated, and the following table shows the number of cases and attendances paid during the year.

School Children—
Scabies 27 cases paid 181 visits.
Eczema Capitis 41 cases paid 424 visits.
Pediculus Capitis.... 335 cases paid 1,535 visits.
Adults—

Scabies 2 cases paid 9 visits.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

353 children of school age received complete protective doses, compared with 174 of the previous year; 115 children attended for one dose only, compared with 100 in the previous year; and 393 children failed to attend the Clinic.

After five years of protection it is considered necessary to give an additional inoculation in order to prolong the protection. During the year 815 of these injections were administered, compared with 590 in 1952.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

George Street Nursery has continued to take children between the ages of two and five years. During the year 44 children have been admitted and 43 children discharged.

St. Columba's C.E. Nursery accommodates children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 33 children have been admitted and 33 children discharged.

Havelock Nursery has continued to take children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 139 children were admitted and 78 children discharged.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

Fordhall School. There are at present 245 educationally sub-normal children in attendance, with 81 cases on the waiting list.

Barbara Priestman School. Provision for the education of partially Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and Semi-Deaf children is made at this Special Day School. There are 58 children in attendance at this school.

Provision for the education of Blind children is made at Residential Schools. There are three children in attendance at such schools.

Thornfield Open-air Day School. Dr. SLADE reports:—

"This school has remained full to capacity all the year.

The majority of the more acute types of illness attending the school continues to be of a respiratory character, and their health is being satisfactorily aided by Nurse Donkin's class for breathing exercises and postural drainage, which she conducts daily.

The Ultra Violet Ray Clinic remains of value for the pupils of the school, who are obviously under-developed physically, and the numbers attending these courses remain high.

The number of pupils in attendance at the end of the year was grouped as follows:—

Vascular System and I	Blood	Disease	es	 20
Nervous System			• • •	 23
Respiratory System			• • •	 61
Rone Diseases	• • •			 3
Others	• • •	• • • •		 13 "

The Oakwood School, Croft Spa, has continued to do good work. During the year 54 children were admitted and 57 children discharged. Regular visits are paid by your medical staff.

Milton Hall Special School. Forty boys have been in residence at this school throughout the year, and they have benefited greatly by their environment.

DENTAL SERVICE.

The following table shows the number of children inspected and treated during the year, as compared with the preceding year:—

		Nu	mber Inspected	Number Treated
1952			11,422	 7,836
1953	• • • •		14,357	 8,815

Mr. PROUD, Senior Dental Officer, reports as follows:-

"During the year dental treatment was given by a staff of four full-time dental officers. Four officers, however, are able to deal with only a proportion of the total number of pupils who are in need of treatment. In order to enable complete dental treatment to be offered during the whole of school life to every child attending the schools of the Borough, additions to the staff and more clinic accommodation are urgently needed. At the present there are three clinics, and proposals have been submitted for the provision of a dental surgery at Villette Road and Southwick Clinics, which when available will give accommodation for three more dental officers. In addition, consideration should also be given to the establishment of clinics to serve the new estates. Clinics should be situated in the area in which the pupils reside, otherwise the distance they have to travel, and the cost of travelling, tend to militate against regular attendance for treatment. The proposed Health Centre on the Springwell Estate may cater for this demand.

Treatment during the year was on orthodox lines, and there was a considerable increase in the amount of orthodontic work undertaken.

The number of applications for emergency treatment, chiefly for the relief of toothache, remains high, and the time required to attend to them makes serious inroads into the time that should be devoted to conservation work. The main reasons for the need of emergency treatment are a complete disregard for the rules of oral hygiene on the part of the patient, and inability of the staff owing to lack of numbers to give, in the case of every child, remedial treatment to dental disease in its early stages. The problem of emergency cases will solve itself to a large extent when the staff is adequate to provide regular inspection and early treatment, and when parents see to it that their children brush their teeth carefully and regularly."

SPEECH THERAPY.

Miss Hastings, Speech Therapist, reports:—

"The year 1953 has been good, in spite of the fact that for five months the children were on fortnightly treatment while Miss Wood was single-handed, owing to my illness.

The waiting list, although still very long, is not as long as at the end of last year. This has only been made possible by giving much less time to school visiting. Co-operation with the schools does not seem to have suffered, however, and we are very grateful for this especially as more children have benefited as a result of this policy.

Co-operation has also been maintained with the Child Guidance Clinic. The Remedial Coaching Department has been a great help to some of our patients, and has relieved this clinic of several cases where retarded reading ability was holding up speech development.

The Dental Officers, as always, have been ready to help and advise us. It would be of great advantage to us all if the proposed Orthodontic Department at one of the Sunderland Hospitals materialised before too long. One of the cleft palate patients was called for operation in November, and had a plastic operation performed on his lip, and was fitted with an obturator. We are hoping that the other children awaiting operative treatment will soon be called.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists at the Sunderland Royal Infirmary have again been most helpful this year, and the waiting period between examination and operative treatment, where this is necessary, is very short.

We hear good reports of the spastic patient who left us on being admitted to the Percy Hedley School for Spastic Children in Newcastle.

Miss Morley, Head Speech Therapist at the Children's Department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, has continued her kind co-operation in allowing us to take our smaller patients for Audiometer tests at her clinic, where special methods are employed to obtain more accurate results with the very young children who are hard of hearing."

Cleanliness.

During the year 28,776 children were examined for cleanliness, and of these only 14.38 per cent. were found unclean. This shows an increase with the year 1952, when 12.96 per cent. were similarly declared unclean.

Orthopædics.

Specialists have continued during the year to see Orthopædic cases submitted to them at the Sunderland Orthopædic and Accident Hospital. Thirty children were referred for advice and treatment.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

As requested by the Ministry, the following information gives the location of the School Clinics, and the sessions held at each:—

Hylton Road Branch Clinic. This clinic serves the west area and is situated at No. 44, Hylton Road. Sessions are held every morning and Tuesday and Friday afternoons, when a nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on a Tuesday afternoon and a Friday morning.

Villette Road Branch Clinic serves the south area. Sessions are held every morning and Monday afternoons, a School Nurse being in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on a Monday afternoon.

Southwick Branch Clinic. This clinic is situated at No. 9, The Terrace, Southwick, and serves the north area. Sessions are held every morning and Monday afternoons, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings.

Hendon Clinic. This clinic serves the east area and is situated in Smyrna Place, Hendon. This is a Minor Ailments and Cleansing Clinic. A School Nurse is in attendance every morning, also Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Two Bathing Attendants are in attendance every morning and afternoon. A School Medical Officer attends on a Thursday morning.

Thorney Close Clinic is held in the Girls' Department of Thorney Close School and serves the new outlying estates in the west area. Sessions are held every morning, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on a Thursday morning.

Central Clinic. This clinic is situated at No. 15, John Street. Special cases only are seen at this clinic by appointment, e.g., Ophthalmic cases, educationally sub-normal, &c.

STAFF.

A complete list of the staff is set out on pages 4 and 5.

Dr. E. Charlton resigned in October; it is expected to fill the vacancy by the end of the year.

Mrs. M. Green, School Nurse, resigned in July, and Nurse E. Aikenhead retired in December. Nurse E. Frain was appointed in September; the second vacancy will be filled early in the new year.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of appreciating the activities of my Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. J. R. Watson, and the Assistant School Medical and Dental Officers, who, together with the Nursing and Clerical staff, have helped me in the work of School Medicine throughout the year.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee, together with the Director of Education, I tender my sincerest thanks.

I am, Yours faithfully,

A. S. HEBBLETHWAITE,

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

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Annual Report of the Organisers of Physical Education

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

Miss P. M. Peters and Mr. P. J. Gillespie report:—

"This has been a year of fairly steady progress in indoor work but the variable weather during the spring and summer months severely curtailed outdoor activities.

In many schools a good deal of time has been devoted to dancing, as national dancing has been one of the features of so many Coronation celebrations. Teachers are to be commended for the care which they have taken to ensure that the steps and costumes of the various countries were correct.

Plimsolls.

4,910 pairs of plimsolls were delivered to the schools during the summer term. Of these 3,731 pairs of laced shoes were supplied to schools with children aged 7 years and upwards, and 1,179 pairs of elastic strap shoes were supplied to schools with children aged 5 to 7 years. This supply of elastic strap shoes was very acceptable as it has been impossible in recent years, due to the high cost, to provide any of this type of shoe.

122 dozen extra pairs of laces were supplied.

Storage of Plimsolls.

Fifty-five storage racks were supplied to Primary Schools. Of these 19 were of a new low type with double doors and were supplied to Infant Schools.

Inspection of Gymnasia.

The annual inspection of apparatus in all schools having gymnasia was again carried out. In addition, a scheme has been in operation for two years whereby all portable gymnastic apparatus is examined and overhauled every third year; i.e., a third of the schools concerned are dealt with each year. As a result of these inspections very few intermediate repairs become necessary and the likelihood of an accident occurring due to faulty apparatus is negligible.

Portable Gymnastic Apparatus.

More portable gymnastic apparatus has been supplied to schools and now, although all Secondary Modern and Primary Senior Schools with suitable facilities have a reasonable supply, more still remains to be done for Primary Junior Schools.

Agility Apparatus—Primary Schools.

Ten more schools have now been supplied with agility apparatus, five of these were schools which were newly opened in the autumn term. As a result, thirty schools now have some, though in many cases very little, agility apparatus.

Fordhall Special School was among those supplied and it was gratifying to find that within two weeks every child of Primary School age was using the apparatus. Although this apparatus is intended for children of Primary School age, it was decided at this school to experiment with the girls aged 11 to 16 years; the experiment is proving worth while, the girls are keen, and the free use of the apparatus is proving invaluable in their development.

Several small demonstrations have been arranged, as it is felt that a teacher who has had no experience with agility apparatus can learn most by first seeing it in use and then by discussing the work with an experienced teacher.

Notes on Physical Education.

In order to fulfil the requirements of newly-appointed teachers and of teachers who have returned to the profession, more sets of notes on all branches of physical education have been issued to women teachers. These notes have been compiled to suit the particular needs of teachers in schools in Sunderland.

Ministry of Education Publication.

Part II of the Ministry of Education's publication, "Physical Education in the Primary School," was published in the summer and a copy was issued to every school in the town. It is noticeable that both Part I and Part II follow closely the lines on which the Sunderland teachers have been working since the war.

Dancing and Movement with Music.

The importance of this branch of physical education cannot be over-emphasised. In some schools a satisfactory standard is being reached, in other cases the lack of a pianist is proving a handicap as no teacher, even if she can play the piano, can both play and teach satisfactorily. It is hoped that in the near future it may be possible for some Secondary Modern Schools to be supplied with a visiting pianist.

GIRLS' GAMES.

Playing Fields—Apparatus.

This year the scheme whereby all schools visiting the playing fields have their own apparatus—i.e., balls, bats, sticks—was further extended, and schools using Seaburn Playing Field were equipped. This means that only at Spark Farm Playing Field do schools use communal apparatus.

Netball.

Interest in this game continues in both Primary and Secondary Schools, and the following figures show that there is a satisfactory continuation when the girls leave school:—

- (1) Twenty-nine Youth Organisations are holding practices and playing matches every week on school courts.
- (2) Nine factories and Old Girls' Clubs are playing twice every week on courts belonging to the Authority or en ground attached to the factory. On one of these evenings games are arranged for all members and on the other evening matches are played.

During the past two years a few Secondary Modern Schools have played matches against schools outside Sunderland. It is hoped that more schools will follow their lead.

Netball Tournaments.

Three American Tournaments have been held, in which 70 teams have taken part. At each tournament there was a section for first teams and a section for second teams.

- (1) On 28th February. For Senior teams.

 1st team winners: Monkwearmouth Grammar School.

 2nd team winners: West Southwick Secondary Modern
 Girls' School.
- (2) On 21st March. For Lower Senior teams.
 1st team winners: Cowan Terrace School.
 2nd team winners: Grange Park Girls' School.
- (3) On 18th April. For Junior teams.

 1st team winners: Pallion Junior School.

 2nd team winners: Springwell Junior School.

The Senior Tournament was held, as in previous years, on courts at Grange Park, St. Columba's and Monkwearmouth Grammar Schools. By mid-March the courts at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School were ready, so the Lower Senior and Junior Tournaments were held there. This proved most satisfactory, as the layout is such that a central control can be kept on all games. It is intended that all future tournaments will be held at this school.

Team Trials.

Team trials held after the Senior Tournament resulted in the following school teams being chosen to represent Sunderland Schools Netball Association at the Inter-Town Tournament:—

Cowan Terrace. Grange Park. West Southwick.

Netball Course.

A One-day Course was held on 23rd February at Thorney Close Junior School. It was taken by Miss Lewis, of Nottingham, who is a member of the All-England Netball Association—Umpires' Panel.

The morning session, which was devoted to work suitable for junior girls, was attended by 36 teachers. In the afternoon 34 teachers were present at a session devoted to team coaching and umpiring.

Hockey.

The main interest of both the teachers and the children is in netball, and hockey takes second place. In a further endeavour to improve the standard of and interest in hockey, a few Head Teachers have agreed, as an experiment, to give the girls a choice. This means that while every girl plays netball, only those with some games ability and/or a wish to play hockey are being taught the second game.

Rounders and Stoolball.

All schools played rounders and many schools also played stoolball during the summer term. In addition to playing interschool matches, four schools held rounders tournaments. These tournaments were played on an inter-house basis, several pitches were used, and every girl in each of the four schools took part.

Padder Tennis and Tennis.

Eight Secondary Modern Schools are now playing padder tennis in their own playgrounds. It is only possible for the two Grammar Schools, playing on public courts, Fulwell Secondary Modern School, using the playground, and Thorney Close Secondary Modern School, where there are courts attached to the school, to play tennis.

BOYS' GAMES.

Schools Football.

During the 1952–53 season there were individual successes. Peter Chape (Diamond Hali) played right-back for England in two games, against Eire and Scotland. Henry Rich (James Williams Street) played in two International trials. Both boys, and two others, were selected for Durham County.

One hundred and seven teams are now taking part in Inter-Schools football. Every new school is represented in the league.

In the present season the Sunderland team has reached the last 32 in the English Schools Trophy. F. Robson (Villiers Street Technical) has played for Durham County.

Schools Cricket.

The competition was organised, as usual, in four senior leagues. The league winners were: Grange Park Secondary Modern Boys (North), St. Aidan's Grammar School (East), Commercial Road Secondary Modern Boys (South), and Hylton Road Boys (West). St. Aidan's won the final game against Hylton Road, thus winning the Swan Cup for two years in succession.

Ten selected boys have been given special winter coaching at Silksworth.

The Junior Competition was run in three leagues; league winners were: High Southwick Junior Boys (North), Hendon Juniors (South), and Hylton Road Juniors (West).

Sunderland Boys reached the final of Durham County Schools Cricket Cup, losing to Consett at Carley Hill. This is the third successive year that Sunderland Boys' team has played in the final of the Cup Competition. Four Sunderland boys were selected to play for Durham County.

Arrangements have again been made for three schools (Villiers Street, West Park and Hendon Boys) to use Vaux's Sports Ground, Glenesk Road, for cricket. The field was used during normal school field periods, and permission, this year, was granted to the above schools to play some of the Inter-School Cricket League games on this field.

Rugby.

Regular Saturday matches are played by Bede Boys' Grammar, Villiers Street and West Park Schools.

D. C. Hogg (Bede Grammar) has twice played scrum-half for Durham County, against Northumberland and Yorkshire; he is again selected for the game against Cumberland. G. E. Ferguson (Bede Grammar) has been selected as travelling reserve for each of three games.

Several Bede Grammar School boys attended an Instructional Course arranged, at the beginning of the season, by Durham County Rugby Union. Further coaching, arranged through Durham County, was given at Bede Grammar School to boys from Bede and South Shields High School.

Swimming.

L.E.A. Proficiency Awards during 1953 were as follows:—

√				
Third Class	••••	 ***	• • • •	479
Second Class		 		238
First Class		 		110
Special		 		14
Badge *	• • • •	 • • • •		14
				055

Regular classes in Life-Saving have been conducted outside school hours by Sunderland Schools Swimming Association, and five schools have their own Life-Saving Classes (Deptford Terrace Secondary Modern, Bede Grammar, Monkwearmouth Grammar, Chester Road Secondary Modern, Diamond Hall Boys).

The boys' section of the Sunderland Schools A.S.A. Life-Saving Competition was won by Deptford Terrace Secondary Modern School. In the A. C. Cox Memorial Trophies competition, which

is open to all schools in Northumberland and Durham, Deptford Terrace Boys gained fourth place.

The Boys' Swimming Gala was successfully organised by Sunderland Schools Swimming Association in November, 1953. Deptford Terrace Secondary Modern and West Park School each held a successful gala during 1953.

R. Manning (Diamond Hall Boys) won the 50 yards Boys' Breaststroke event in the Northumberland and Durham Championships, 1953, and was selected to represent Northumberland and Durham in the English Schools Championships at Bournemouth.

Thirteen men teachers regularly attend the L.E.A. Teachers' Swimming Class. Fourteen boys gained the Schools Medallist Award, and two the Advanced Award of the English Schools Swimming Association.

Bede Condition Co-efficient.

A request has been received from the Ministry of Education for an up-to-date report on this, and interested Ministry officials (Medical Branch) have expressed a wish to visit Sunderland to investigate and assess the value of the Co-efficient.

The Co-efficient is designed to measure a boy's nutritional condition. If the method is pronounced satisfactory, and is accepted, there would be obvious advantages in having, in Sunderland, a means of detecting change, perhaps rapid change, in a child's condition.

While measurements can be obtained, and the chart operated by a layman, all work must, of course, be under the supervision of the Medical Officer.

Since April, 1953, much of the work has been carried out during frequent visits to Thornfield Open-air School, and, in lesser degree, at Commercial Road and Hendon Boys' Schools. This has been made possible by the active interest taken by Dr. G. Slade, who has guided and supervised this experimental work, and by the co-operation of the Headmasters concerned. Recent work has been facilitated and encouraged by the Headmaster of Bede Boys' Grammar School.

The Medical Officer of Health gave his encouragement to the early research, which started on behalf of Sunderland Education Authority at Bede Boys' Grammar School in 1938. West Park Boys' School has contributed enormously to the investigations carried out. Mr. H. Wilson (Bede Boys' Grammar School) has been responsible for the whole of the mathematics and statistical analysis involved, and for the production of the chart. It was this work to which Mr. Bouffler made reference in his lecture on "The Field for Research" on 18th November.

'Sunderland Education Authority— Physical Education Coaching Series.'

VISUAL AIDS.—A series of films and filmstrips under the above title has been planned, as an aid to teaching various branches of Physical Education. The second in the series, to follow the filmstrip

already produced on 'Boxing Coaching,' is a moving film, approximately 400 feet in length, on the teaching of the handspring. The film is complete in its silent form, but, to fulfil its purpose adequately, will need the addition of a spoken commentary to convert it into a sound film.

The purposes of these films and filmstrips are :—

- (a) to provide material which may assist teachers in their work in schools;
- (b) to improve the instruction given at Teachers' Courses, Youth Courses, and other classes in Physical Education.

Sunderland and District Men's Physical Activities Association.

The inaugural meeting of this Association was held on 8th October, 1953. The aim of the Association is to promote and maintain interest in all branches of Physical Education. Fulfilment of this aim is sought by (a) the arrangement of an enjoyable series of lectures, demonstrations, films, visits and talks by well-known personalities, and (b) the formation of Voluntary Working Groups. Groups have been formed in Athletics, Boxing, Gymnastics, Cricket, Soccer, Rugby, Basket-ball, Swimming, Camping and Visual Aids.

The following have consented to visit Sunderland to address members of the Association during the first year:—

T. Taylor, Esq., H.M.I.

- E. Bouffler, Esq., Principal, Carnegie College of Physical Education, Leeds.
- W. Winterbottom, Esq., Director of Coaching, Football Association.
- G. H. G. Dyson, Esq., Chief National Coach, Athletic Association.
- E. Major, Esq., M.B.E., Staff Inspector, Ministry of Education.
- Sir Stanley Rous, C.B.E., J.P., Secretary, Football Association.
- Professor H. A. Harris, Kitchener School of Medicine, Khartoum, Sudan; formerly Professor of Anatomy, Cambridge University.

The following Coaching Demonstrations have been arranged:—

- 'Focus on Badminton,' with All-England Champions.
- 'The Way to Wimbledon,' Mr. Dan Maskell, Coach to the All-England Lawn Tennis Club, Wimbledon.

'Basket Ball," by leading N.E. teams.

- 'Swimming,' by Mr. Matt Mann, Michigan University, Coach to the American Olympic Swimming Team.
- 'Spotlight on Sport,' with outstanding British Athletes. arranged by the Central Council of Physical Recreation,

By courtesy of Mr. Winterbottom, Football Association films are made available to the Association. These include the Hungary versus England game and the F.I.F.A. game.

Advantages which, it is expected will result from the formation of this Association include:—

- (1) The work in schools should be influenced and improved by granting to teachers the stimulation of direct contact with recognised authorities in various branches of Physical Education.
- (2) The wide variety of activities included is designed to produce a like widening of interest. (The Council includes 23 representatives of various sports associations, clubs and organisations in Durham County and Sunderland.)
- (3) The formation of Voluntary Working Groups may yield benefit, since the Groups will be encouraged, through the Chairmen, to develop projects which will aid the teaching of Physical Education in schools.

Athletics.

Three boys from Bede Boys' Grammar School competed in the National Athletic Championships at Uxbridge in July, 1953. R. Rendall was placed third in the Mile (Senior) and A. Cowey was second in the Pole Vault (Senior).

Spotlight on Physical Education.

A' Spotlight 'was arranged at Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School on two evenings in December, 1953, to illustrate some of the ways in which physical skills and activities are developed in the Secondary School and how the subject can be developed in the gymnasium. The programme included a shortened form of a normal gymnastic lesson, also Soccer, Wrestling, Athletics, Rugby, Boxing, Cricket, Basket Ball and Advanced Gymnastics.

The Physical Education staff was, naturally, concerned with many of these activities, but it is noteworthy that several other members of staff instructed, each man taking complete charge of the branch of sport in which he was particularly interested.

Nursery Nurses, Nursing Cadets and Commercial Students.

Two part-time teachers have been appointed and, as a result, every student in these courses is now having a weekly lesson in the gymnasium at the Technical College.

Technical College Students' Tennis Course.

For the second year in succession a six-weeks' course attended by both men and women students was held during February and March. The coach was Mr. S. Evans, Official Coach to the Lawn Tennis Association.

EVENING CLASSES FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND ADULTS.

Sunderland Youth (Senior) Course (15 years and over).

Since October, 1953, a Special Course for Youth has been held each Thursday in Bede Boys' Grammar School, having, as its ultimate aim, the production of Leaders qualified to assist in various clubs and organisations.

The course is divided into three groups: Intermediate, Advanced, and Leaders, and instruction is given to each group, each evening, in (a) Gymnastics, (b) Coaching (Athletics, Boxing, Cricket, Rugby, Soccer and Basket Ball), and (c) Theory of Physical Education. (This is supported by films and filmstrips.)

'Advanced Gymnastic Awards' can be gained, after testing; the standard is fairly high. 'Intermediate Awards' are being introduced to encourage younger and less able performers.

Junior Course.

To meet a very heavy demand, a course for younger boys (12 to 15 years) was arranged on the same lines as the Senior Course; here the numbers demand the formation of four groups.

Average attendances: Seniors, 50 Approximately 130 boys Juniors, 80 received instruction each evening.

STAFF.—A sizeable staff, including a specialist in each subject, was desirable. Six instructors are teachers; in addition, Police Constable D. Bloomfield (A.A.A. Coach) specialises in Athletics, and Mr. H. Johnson (Central Council Qualification) assists in the gymnasium.

Evening Classes.

An Open Class for youths and men is held each Tuesday in St. George's House gymnasium, and classes in Physical Recreation have been provided as follows:—

Ebor Boys' Club. Grangetown Community Association. Pallion Boys' Club.

A special Football Coaching Course for Youth Club members is held each Wednesday. The instructor, Mr. A. Snell, is a qualified F.A. Coach.

Adult Classes for Women.

Three 'Open' Classes have been held this autumn; more students enrolled than in previous years and attendances have been satisfactory.

(1) Keep Fit and Dancing.

- (2) Keep Fit and Dancing—an afternoon class for mothers, who brought their children to be cared for in a nursery.
- (3) Scottish Country Dancing."

Provision of Milk and Meals

Miss J. D. Cormack, Organiser of School Meals, reports:—

"During the Easter holidays 1,089 children received free meals daily.

At Whitsuntide holiday 1,022 children received free meals daily.

During the summer vacation 1,360 free meals were served each day, with the exception of Bank Holiday.

Throughout the October holiday 1,365 children were provided with free meals each day.

The following table shows the number of children who received the mid-day meal during the year:—

January		••••	••••	10,975
February				10,446
March				9,762
April				9,788
May	••••			9,876
June	••••			9,676
July		••••		9,618
August			••••	1,351 (Free Meals only)
September	r	• • • •		9,760
October	••••	••••		9,957
November	•			10,004
December				10,041

All of the School Meals Kitchens were visited by Mr. Mullins, Sanitary Inspector. He gave a talk on Hygiene and Cleanliness to the members of the School Meals staffs in South Johnson Street Kitchen on the 19th November, 1953."

Mr. T. NICHOLLS, Superintendent Welfare Officer, reports:—

"During the year 1953 the permitted quantity of milk supplied to children attending school remained at one-third of a pint per child, with the exception of those attending Thornfield Open-air Day School and the Nursery Schools, who have two-thirds of a pint daily.

During the year the average attendance in all schools was 28,278, and an average of 27,396 bottles of milk were consumed each day. The percentage of school children taking milk was 96.8, compared with 97.3 in 1952."

Summary of Work

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

INSPECTION WORK IN SCHOOLS.							
Medical Officers.	1952	1953					
	1902	1955					
Number of pupils examined at Primary	0.784	0.503					
and Secondary Schools		9,393					
Number of pupils examined at Special		250					
Schools	410	230					
School Dental Officers.							
	11 400	14055					
Number of pupils inspected	11,422	14,357					
School Nurses.							
	20.022	20.776					
Number of examinations for cleanliness							
Percentage of children found unclean	12.96%	14.38%					
Number of houses visited for "following-	0.40	1 100					
up ''	948	1,129					
Number of visits to schools re infectious	100	00					
disease	108	89					
WORK AT CLINICS.							
Treatment.							
Skin Department. 1952 1953							
	0.700	0.060					
Number of cases treated	2,790	2,962					
Hylton Road Clinic 723 739 Villette Road Clinic 410 453							
7 11 11 011 1							
Fordhall Clinic 228 182 Hendon Clinic 613 585							
Springwell Clinic 145 313							
Springwen Chine 143 313							
Ophthalmic Department.							
Number of children with defective vision							
	1 606	3 549					
examined by the Ophthalmic Specialist Number re-examined by School Nurse		1,548					
Number of such children examined at the	033	971					
1952 1953							
Clinics	221	188					
Hylton Road Clinic 95 57							
Villette Road Clinic 46 44							
Southwick Clinic 77 75	,						
Hendon Clinic 3 1							
Springwell Clinic — 11							

				1952		1953
Number of Eye Diseases	trea	ited		421		
•		1952	1953			
Hylton Road Clinic		89	85			
Villette Road Clinic	• • • •	58	61			
Southwick Clinic	••••	124				
Fordhall Clinic	• • • •	30	26			
Hendon Clinic	• • • •	98				
Springwell Clinic	• • • •	22	49			
Aural Danautmant						
Aural Department. Number of minor ear de	fecto	cean o	t the			
Clinics			t the	508		522
Chines	• • • •	1952	1953	300	• • • •	344
Hylton Road Clinic		126				
Villette Road Clinic		81	62			
Southwick Clinic		114	104			
Fordhall Clinic		54	34			
Hendon Clinic		106	98			
		27	105			
-						
Special Conditions.						
Number of cases treated				2,045		1,776
Hylton Road Clinic		666	667			
Villette Road Clinic		241	216			
Southwick Clinic		665	521			
Fordhall Clinic		71	44			
Hendon Clinic		181	121			
Springwell Clinic			207			
1						
Dental Treatment.						
Number of cases treated				7,836		8,815
Number of attendances				9,879		13,634
Cleansing Clinic.						
Number of children wh						
treatment of Scabies,	, &c.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • •	397		403
Number of attendances		••••	••••	1,967		2,140
Ultra Violet Ray Clinic.						
Number of cases treated				424		235
Number of attendances				5,692		3,930
Immunisation against Dipl	ithe:	ria.				
Number of cases immuni			se	100		115
Number of cases immuni	sed,	two do	oses	174	• • • •	353
Number of recurrent in	_					
five years				590	••••	815
Number of attendances	••••	••••	••••	1,038		1,636
TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDANCE	ES AT	THE AB	BOVE-			
NAMED CLINICS				59,458		63,248
						-

Ministry of Education Medical Inspection Returns

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (including Special Schools).

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed	Groups	:
Entrants		4,019
Second Age Group	• • • •	2,106
Third Age Group		3,468
		0.700
Total		9,593
Number of other Periodic Inspections		250
Grand Total	****	9,843
B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.		
Number of Special Inspections	****	1,527
Number of Re-inspections		
	_	
Total		1,527

C.—Pupils found to require Treatment.

Group	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa	Total individual Pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants Second Age Group Third Age Group Total (prescribed groups) Other Periodic Inspections GRAND TOTAL	1 121 120 242 14 256	637 209 217 1,063 24 1,087	638 323 331 1,292 35 1,327

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

			CTIONS	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS		
Defe		No. of	Defects	No. of	Defects	
Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
4 5	Skin	181 256 112	52 155 47	18 56 21	8 19 19	
6	(c) Other Ears—(a) Hearing (b) Otitis Media (c) Other	56 17 30 35	9 16 15 15	16 7 6 7	19 3 3 3 6	
7 8 9	Nose or Throat Speech Cervical Glands	239 22 4	362 33 32	64 24 8	57 16 15	
10	Heart and Circulation. Lungs	73 143	182 294	42 65	75 86	
12	Developmental— (a) Hernia (b) Other	6 7	19 13	1 2	1 2	
	(a) Posture (b) Flat Foot (c) Other	6 20 23	24 69 29	1 5 6	2 12 5	
14	Nervous System— (a) Epilepsy (b) Other	15 13	15 17	8	5 2	
15	Psychological— (a) Development . (b) Stability	17 50	24 22	9 11	7 8 19	
16	Other	277	83	79	19	

TABLE II.

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

*	No. of Pupils	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
Age Groups	In- spected	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants Second Age	4,019	2,123	52.82	1,787	44.46	109	2.71
Group	2,106	1,165	55.32	875	41.55	66	3.13
Third Age Group	3,468	1,535	44.26	1,730	49.88	203	5.85
Other Periodic Inspections	250	41	16.4	177	70.8	32	12.8
Total	9,843	4,864	49.42	4,569	46.42	410	4.17

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	28,776
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	4,137
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued (Section 42 (2), Education Act, 1944)	1,824
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	
	induction 110th and 110th	

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(including Special Schools).

GROUP I.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III).

Ringworm-	–(i) Scalp					Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year
	(ii) Body					26
Scabies	••••		••••	••••		27
Impetigo	••••	••••	••••		••••	142
Other Skin	Diseases	• • • •	••••	••••	••••	55 9
	Total				••••	761

GROUP II.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases dealt with					
External and other, excluding errors of refraction						
and squint	. 601					
Errors of refraction (including squint)	. 1,548					
Total	2,149					
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—	-					
(a) Prescribed	. 1,338					
(b) Obtained	North-Process					

GROUP III.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

		Number of cases treated
Received operative treatment	••••	No record
(All operative treatment carried out by Regional Hospital Board)		·
Received other forms of treatment	• • • •	5 09

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS. (a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitalsF	igure not vailable.
(b) Number treated otherwise; e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments 30 cate to 0	ases referred Orthopædic pecialist.
GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC. Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	348
GROUP VI.—Speech Therapy. Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	215
GROUP VII.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.	fumber of cases dealt with
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments (b) Other than above (specify)—	3,993
1. Ultra Violet Ray 2. Infra Red Ray	235 65
Total	4,293
TARIE V	
TABLE V.	
TABLE V. DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE	ENT
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME	ENT
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY. (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dent	al Officers—
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.	al Officers—
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY. (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dent	ral Officers— 10,839 3,518
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY. (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dent (a) Periodic age groups	9,575 9,575 8,815
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATME CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY. (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dent (a) Periodic age groups	9,575 9,575 9,575 8,815 13,634

(7) Fillings—						
Permanent	Teeth			••••		3,019
Temporary	Teeth			• • • •		142
T	s+o1 (7)					2 161
	otal (7)		• • • •		• • • •	3,161
(8) Number of Teeth	i filled-					
Permanent	Teeth					2,593
Temporary	Teeth					142
	1 (0)					0.725
10	otal (8)	• • • •				2,735
(9) Extractions—						
Permanent	Teeth					2,193
Temporary	Teeth				,	9,042
	4 (0)					
To	otal (9)	* * * *		• • • •		11,235
(10) Administration of	genera	l anæs	thetics	for		
extraction	••••		• • • •	••••		6,884
(11) (1)						
(11) Other operations–						
Permanent				••••	• • • •	413
Temporary	Teeth		• • • •			1,938
T	otal (11	\				0.251
10	otal (11)	***		• • • •	2,351

Appendix to the Annual Report

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE.

The Psychological Service has two distinct departments:—

- (1) THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, which deals with children who are showing problems of personality, behaviour or learning.
- (2) PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS, which deals with testing schemes and the examination and treatment of the dull and backward children.

The Staff.

Pædiatrician: Dr. Jessie Watson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PSYCHIATRIST: Dr. W. Hinds, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.,

Child Psychiatrist to Darlington Education Committee; Specialist in Psychiatry to the

War Office.

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST: Mr. I. S. Flett, M.A., B.ED.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISER: Mr. W. McKie, M.A.

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER: Miss I. R. Stirling, M.A.

CLERICAL STAFF: Miss L. M. Hammond, Miss P. McConnell and Miss M. Davison.

THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

The Child Guidance Clinic has completed fifteen years of existence; the first two as an experimental clinic in the Sunderland Royal Infirmary and later in Southwick Clinic before being taken over by the Authority in 1940. In 1950 the present attractive premises were acquired at 23, Mowbray Road. It is certainly one of the most pleasant clinics in the country, and efforts are being made, through gifts of friends, to turn the grounds into a garden.

Area.

The area used by the clinic remains the same—Northumberland, Durham County, South Shields and West Hartlepool—together with

all children between the ages of birth to twenty-one whose parents are ratepayers of Sunderland, no matter what type of school they attend.

Treatment.

The chief aim of the clinic is the treatment of the emotionally disturbed child who may show a variety of symptoms from shyness to aggression, failure at school, bed-wetting, delinquency, or general nervousness. Of the new cases seen last year, 230 concerned the personality and disturbed emotions, 123 behaviour problems, and 54 failure at school. The examination of the whole child in its total situation is carried out by a team of specialists before treatment is decided upon. This decision is made at the staff meeting, the decision being a team decision and not that of an individual. This method appears the most scientific as well as the most satisfactory method of making such momentous decisions, for no matter how experienced a clinician may be, there is always the risk of personal bias; furthermore, experience has shown that better results are obtained when different people interview parent and child, intimate relationship thereby being more quickly built up.

Dr. Hinds has been able to give two more sessions monthly, and the extra time has not only helped to reduce the waiting lists but this reduction of the interval between diagnostic and treatment interviews quite markedly improves the prognosis of the case. The number of delinquents coming from comfortable, indeed very comfortable, homes was the outstanding feature of last year's cases. This year, Dr. Hinds has met anxiety in a number of parents made fearful for themselves and their children through learning by press, radio and television much detail of mental and physical illness. Valuable rapport with Mr. Rowbotham, the Neurological Surgeon, is maintained with increasing mutual benefit, particularly in the case of children showing impulsive, non-socially co-ordinated behaviour. The clinic reaps the benefit of advancing accuracy of diagnosis and the patients provide the neurologist with valuable research opportunities in early cases.

The **Play Groups** for pre-school children continued with success until the latter part of the year when, despite their popularity, they had to be suspended because there was not sufficient time with the present staff to continue this most interesting experiment.

The **Mothers' Clinic** continues to be a most productive session. Success with enuresis has been most marked, and through the supportive interviews given many more cases can be kept under review or tailed off after intensive treatment.

The **Remedial Coaching** was carried on in the clinic until September of this year, as heretofore; that is, the emotional disturbance and the child's educational disabilities were treated pari passu, the mother and child attending together. Mr. McKie has contributed much to this side of the work. Regretfully this has had to be abandoned as there is not sufficient psychiatric time to

carry it out. The coaching is now given in the Remedial Teaching Centre, catering for the emotionally disturbed child who fails at school in spite of having adequate intelligence.

Lectures.

The education of the public in the principles of Mental Health has always been an important part of the clinic's work. Lectures have been given to many groups in the North-East, Community Centres, Parent-Teacher Associations, Women's and Church Groups, Conferences and larger public meetings, besides students of all kinds. A visit to the staff meeting on Tuesday morning is probably one of the best ways of seeing how the clinic works; at least a constant stream of visitors—doctors, teachers, administrators, lecturers and social workers—thinks so.

As regards the success of the clinic, 75 per cent. is that usually claimed for general medicine, and the clinic results bear this out, except in the case of enuresis, in which the percentage is much The evaluation of treatment becomes harder the more experienced the clinician. The disappearance of the symptoms does not necessarily mean the resolution of the disturbing mechanism. How can one judge success or failure? It can only be attempted years afterwards when the adjustment obtained during treatment may then be judged as to whether it gave only temporary relief or helped to a greater integration of personality than would otherwise have been expected. There are, however, so many variables maturation, life's experience, &c.—the judgment on the matter is largely subjective. Quantitative evaluation would appear at this stage of our knowledge to be impossible. It has been the practice of this clinic not to claim "adjustment," but when this appears to take place to call it "improvement," and when it does not take place to call it "non-adjustment."

Numbers.

New Cases—			
Carried forward from 1952	••••		143
Referred during 1953	••••	••••	381
Re-referred from previous years	••••	••••	18
			542
Cases seen during 1953			407
Re-referred cases dealt with			18
Carried forward unexamined	• • • •	• • • •	41
Otherwise dealt with	••••	***	76
			542

Diagnostic Service.

Diagnostic Scrvice.					
	GIRLS		BOYS	T	OTAL
Medical and Social Advice	21		30		51
Educational Advice	5		14		19
Placement	14		25		39
Mantal Defeat	7		$\frac{-5}{10}$		17
	3				
Physical			2		5
Speech Therapy	1		8		9
Referred to other Clinics	5		15	• • • •	20
Referred to Remedial Teaching					
Centre without Psychiatric					
Interviews	1		11		12
Failure to complete examination	10	••••	2	• • • •	12
randre to complete examination	10	• • • •	4	••••	14
	67		117		184
•	07		117		101
Full Service.					
	GIRLS		BOYS	T	OTAL
Carried forward from 1952	31		92		123
Selected for Treatment during 1953	99				
			J. 124		
	130		234		364
	130	••••	2401	• • • •	301
Closed improved after Treatment	54		86		140
Unadjusted	2		4		6
	12				
Transferred to other Clinics, &c	14		19		31
Transferred after Treatment to	4		4.0		0.0
Remedial Teaching Centre	4		19		23
Placement	_		6		6
Advice	8		21		29
Removal	5		4		9
Unable to attend for Treatment	17		21		38
Carried forward to 1954	27	••••	49	••••	7 6
Carried forward to 1951	41	• • • •	7.7	••••	70
	129		229		358
Camiad familiard under Investigation		• • • •		••••	
Carried forward under Investigation	2	• • • •	5	••••	7
	121		221		365
	131		234	• • • •	365
	a water a second	S 4 15 2.1	S. S		

REPORT OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN SCHOOLS.

In order to strengthen the integration of the psychological and educational guidance service within the school system, and to ensure that there is the closest liaison between the psychological service, administration and school staffs, a team of three—Mr. Bridge (Deputy Director of Education), Mr. Flett (Educational Psychologist), and Mr. McKie (Organiser of Teacher Training)—has contributed to the projects carried out this year.

Regular school visiting has continued to most departments. All school staffs have given their valuable assistance and we would like to record our thanks for their help. This year a total of 380 children were individually examined in schools; some were referred by schools, others were examined as part of the "follow-up" schemes at 7+ and 11+. The continued co-operation of the officers of the School Medical and Speech Therapy Departments has increased the efficiency of diagnosis and disposal and we wish to express thanks to them.

The Moray House Picture Intelligence Test was administered to 2,942 children leaving the Infant Departments. Schools' staffs marked the tests and recorded the results in the record cards. Their co-operation and help are much appreciated. All those who made a score of I.Q. 80 and below in the test done last year have been given individual examinations.

As part of the scheme for establishing "opportunity" classes at the secondary stage, children selected by the results of the First Part of the Authority's examination for allocation to secondary schools (1953) were individually examined. Some of these had already been examined earlier in their school careers. 132 children were examined under this scheme.

To cater for retarded children of average or over average intelligence, a Remedial Education Centre has been established. A part-time teacher is in attendance at the Teachers' Reference Library, where children attend for half a day a week. At present 40 such children are in attendance. It is thus hoped to reduce the number of intelligent children who fail in school.

A schedule has been prepared containing in summary form most of the main measures found to have been effective in tackling retarded children. It is now available in all Junior, Senior and Secondary Modern Departments. The form of psychological report has been altered to aid quick reference, and a section provides for reference to the schedule. It is hoped that teachers will thus be able to implement, in some detail, the advice given in each case. More attention has been given this year to the treatment of retarded children to balance the purely diagnostic aspect.

Arising from the year's work, it is clear that the establishment of "opportunity" classes in the Junior age range, whenever accommodation makes such a scheme feasible, would be of much assistance.

Improvements could be made in the format of the school record card so that facts are shown in a manner both more precise and more helpful. The major objective for 1954 is to give information about the published findings of educational research and help in the teaching of retarded children in the form of lectures, discussions, &c. Arrangements are already in hand.







24-5-87